PHOTOVOGUE PHOTOSTORY

“My Nonhuman Friends” by Nika Sandler

A delicate archive of memories, some shot from the point of view of the artist's feline friend.

BY PHOTOVOGUE
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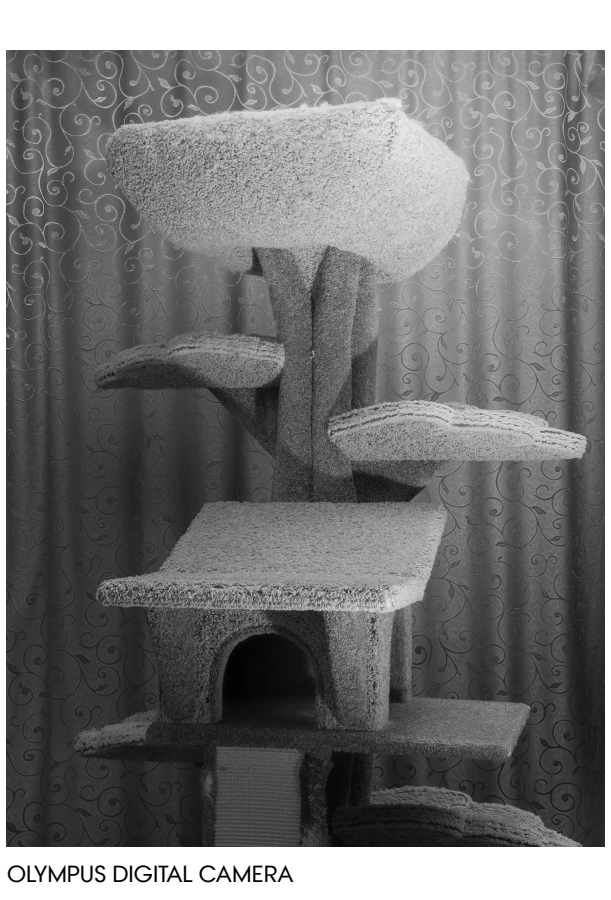
Nika Sandler, part of our PhotoVogue Community, narrates her relationship with her cat, whom she lost a year ago. She remembers her non-human friend through archival photographs and captures new moments, portraying the world from the animal's perspective.

"Since birth, I have always been surrounded by cats. The first being who became interested in me after I was discharged from the hospital was a cat. He stood on the bed and stared at me. He had never seen a human child before. Fortunately, he liked me. I had been under his watchful eye ever since. At the same time, my friendship with cats began.

A year ago, I lost a close feline friend. This event made me immerse myself in the memories of cats and reflect on their impact on me and my life.

In this series, I turn to archival photographs of my nonhuman friends, some of which I magnify greatly and try to look at and recall the smallest details in a catlike, far-sighted way. I create still lifes with objects that remember the touches and smell of my friends. I also take screenshots of camera footage attached to cats' collars to get an idea of how they saw the world."



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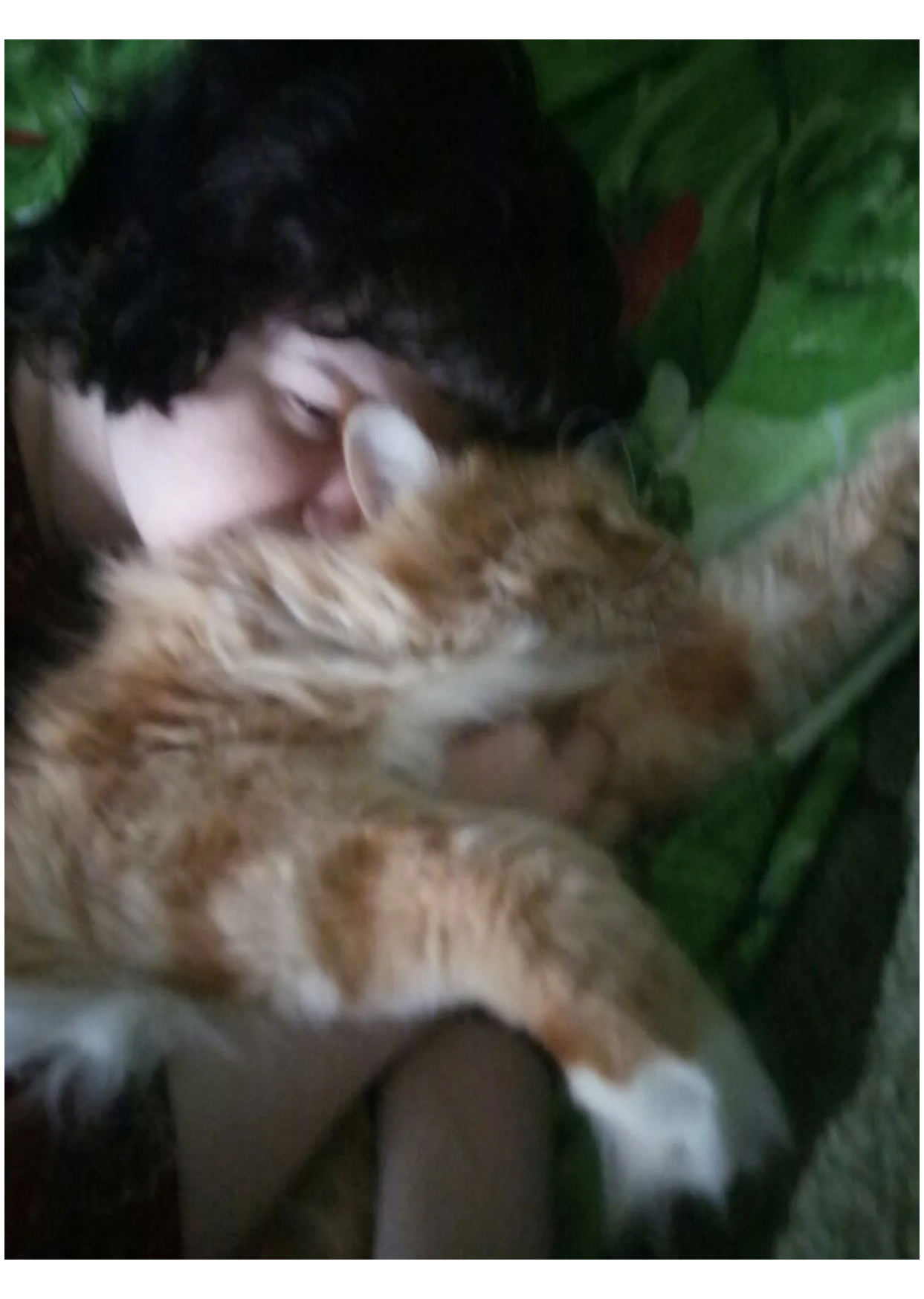

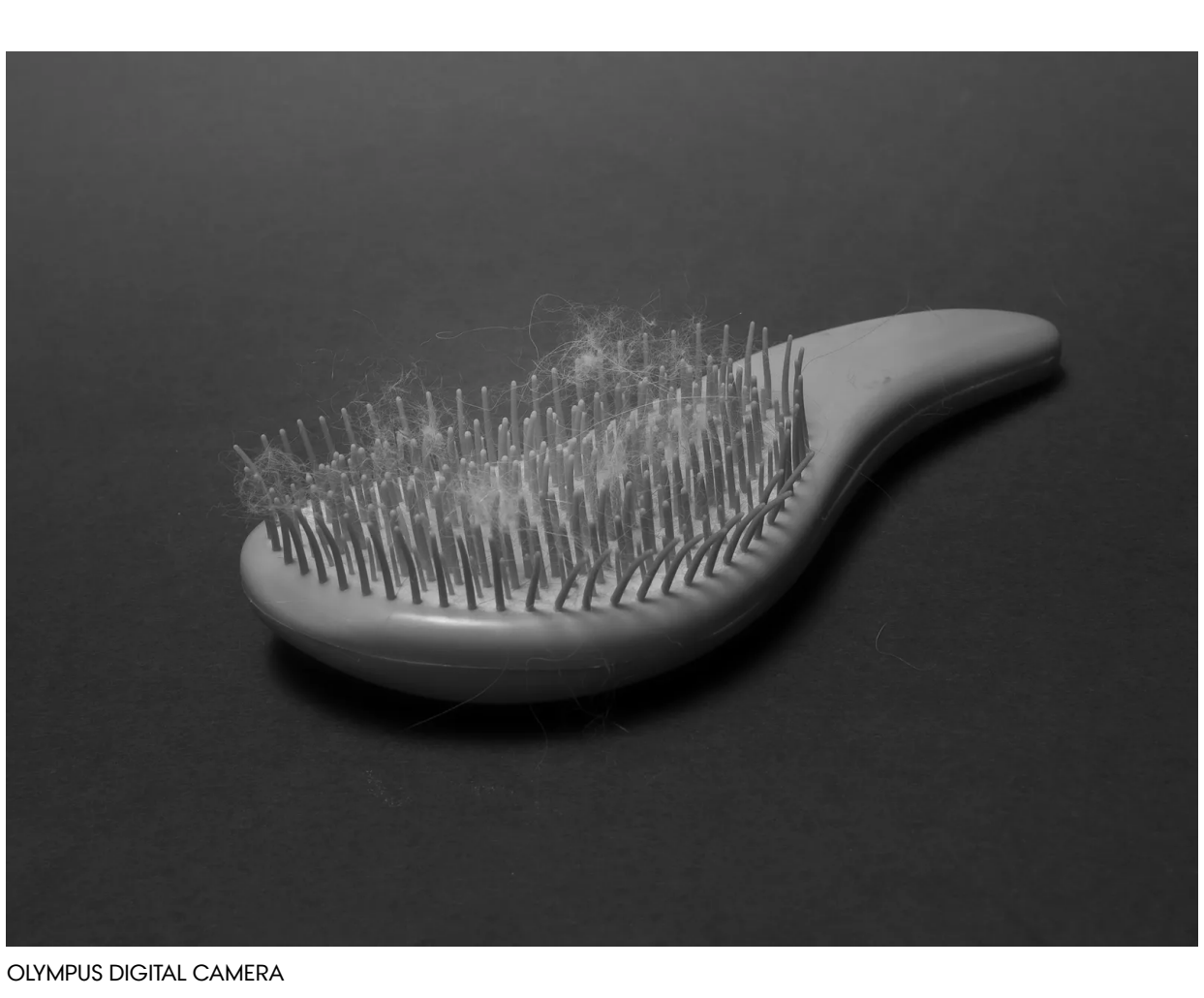

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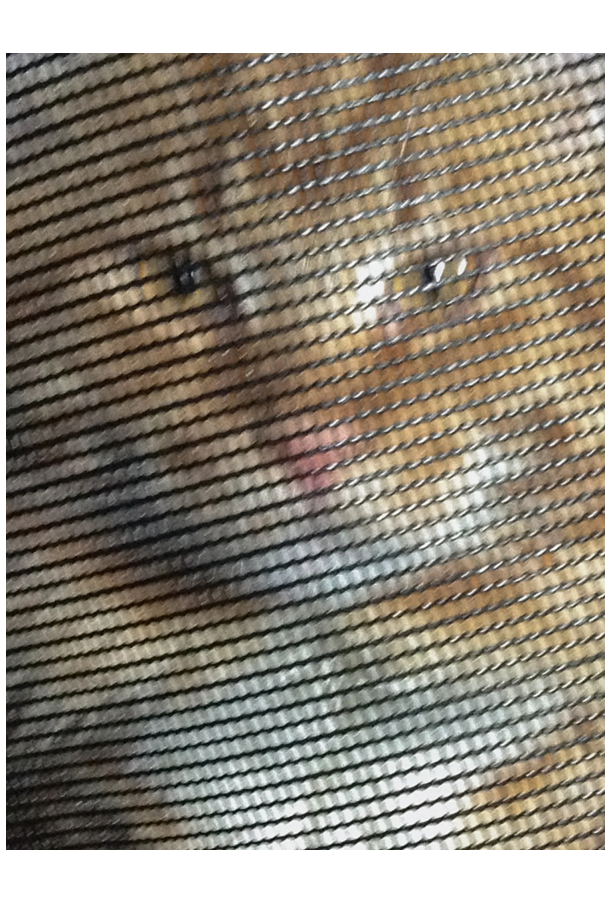

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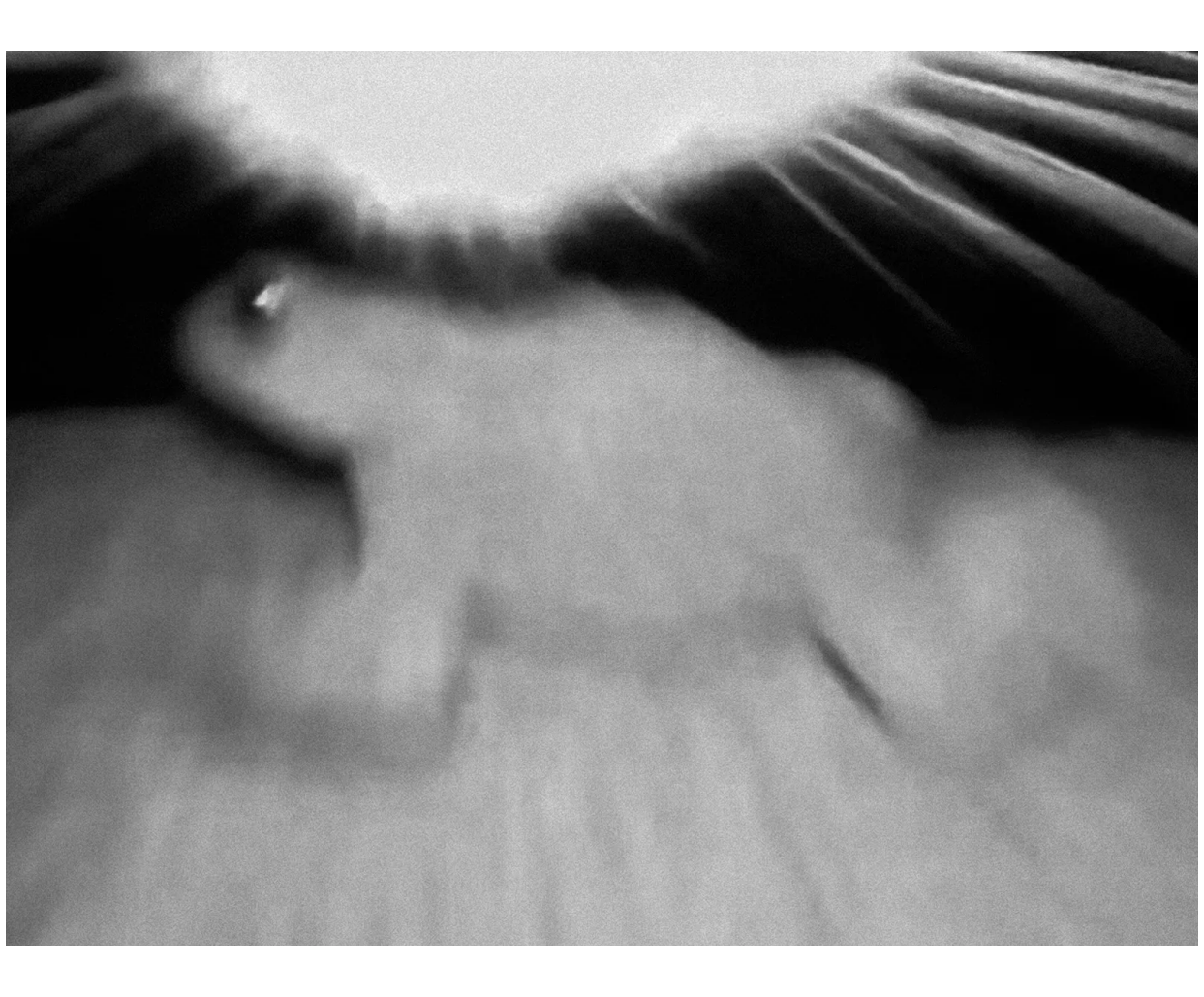

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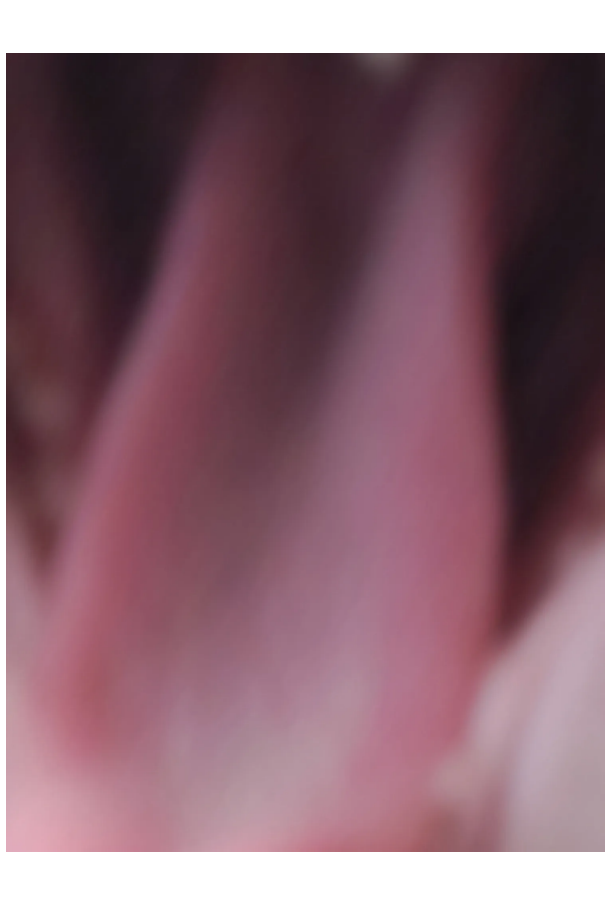

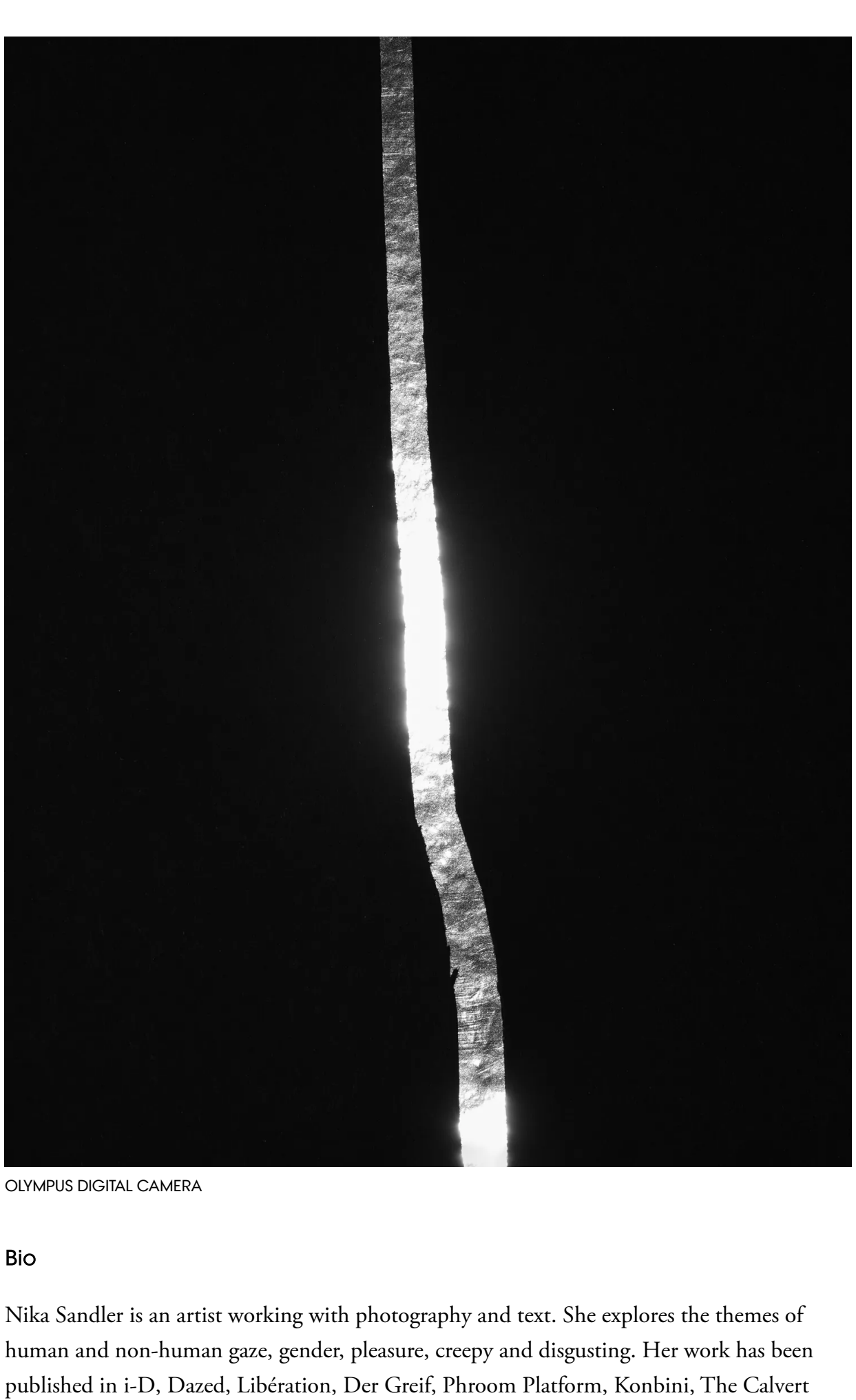

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Bio

Nika Sandler is an artist working with photography and text. She explores the themes of human and non-human gaze, gender, pleasure, creepy and disgusting. Her work has been published in i-D, Dazed, Libération, Der Greif, Phroom Platform, Konbini, The Calvert Journal, Publico, Metal Magazine, PhMuseum, L'Oeil de la Photographie, BROAD, F-Stop, Float Magazine and many others. She is also the winner of the Small File Photo Festival 2023 organized by The Photographers' Gallery.

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